

Fiscal Services Division

Legislative Services Agency

Fiscal Note

HF 2501 – Senior Judges (LSB 6385 HV)

Analyst: Jennifer Acton (Phone: (515) 281-7846) (jennifer.acton@legis.state.ia.us)

Fiscal Note Version – New

Description

House File 2501 permits a Senior Judge that reaches age 78 to be reappointed to an additional two-year term as a Senior Judge, if deemed fit to serve by the Supreme Court. This increases the mandatory retirement age from 78 to 80 years of age.

Background

- There are currently 35 active Senior Judges in the Judicial Branch.
- The FY 2008 salary for a Senior Judge is \$7,238.
- The mandatory retirement age for a Judge is 72 years of age and for a Senior Judge is 78 years of age.
- Three Judges will turn 78 in 2008 and four Judges will turn 78 in 2009.

Assumptions

- Assumes at least one Judge each fiscal year would qualify and all Judges in each group will be deemed fit to serve two additional years by the Supreme Court.
- In FY 2009, the Senior Judge salary will increase by 3.0% and in FY 2010, the salary will increase by 4.5%.
- Health insurance will increase by 10.0% each year.
- The annuity will increase by 1.5% in FY 2009 and 2.25% in FY 2010.

Fiscal Impact

The estimated cost to the General Fund for FY 2009 is minimal, ranging from \$18,000 to \$54,000.

The estimated cost to the General Fund for FY 2010 ranges from \$40,000 to \$139,000, depending on the number of Judges the Supreme Court deems fit to serve two additional years.

	FY 2009		FY 2010	
	One Judge	All Eligible Judges	Two Judges	All Eligible Judges
Salary	\$ 8,160	\$ 24,480	\$ 17,054	\$ 59,689
Annuity	901	2,704	2,898	10,140
Health Insurance	8,976	26,928	19,748	69,118
	<u>\$ 18,037</u>	<u>\$ 54,112</u>	<u>\$ 39,700</u>	<u>\$ 138,947</u>

Source

Judicial Branch

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

March 5, 2008

The fiscal note and correctional impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Fiscal Services Division, Legislative Services Agency to members of the Legislature upon request.
